

**ABSTRACT**

**METHOD FOR SHARING INTERNAL EXCESS BANDWIDTH BETWEEN  
OUTPUT AND INPUT TERMINATION MODULES OF A SWITCHING  
5 NETWORK**

The present invention relates to a method for sharing internal excess bandwidth between output and input termination modules of a switching network including a switch core fabric (FC) by means of which a plurality of  
10 input termination modules (ITM1 to ITMn) communicate with a plurality of output termination modules (OTM1 to OTMm) through at least point-to-point transmission means considered as corresponding each to a virtual ingress-to-egress pipe (VIEP).

Sharing of internal excess bandwidth is obtained by successive  
15 steps including a minimum bandwidth request calculation step, each request being transmitted to an output termination module for obtaining a minimum bandwidth grant in return.

The minimum bandwidth request and grant related to an input termination module linked by an ingress-to-egress pipe to an output termination  
20 module are both calculated for a determined number K of relative administrative weights corresponding each to a different quality of service, with a different request and a corresponding grant for every weight.

Figure for publication: fig. 1